**Inside Stories** Appreciation, p.2

VOL. 85, No. 25

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

MAY 12, 2022

# Update on Evictions and More

by Cathie Meetre

At its April 25 meeting, the Greenbelt City Council voted unanimously to accept the recommended bid by local government financial systems vendor Edmunds. City Treasurer Bertha Gaymon explained that the current system was manual and the new system will get them "into the 21st century" and had been "a long time coming." Edmunds was the middle of three bids but considered preferable in capability and support for automating and streamlining the city's mostly manual, paper-based system which is also no longer maintained by its vendor. Capabilities include online payments in- and out-bound instead of in-person or mailed checks and electronic connections to financial institutions for direct download and upload of transactions.

# **Evolutionary Software**

Edmunds' representative John Wray described the NCSJ software suite, deployed to over 2,000 local governments. He said it was evolutionary and a subscription included ongoing updates. On being asked by Mayor Emmett Jordan about "end of life" for the package, Wray said, "There is no end-of-life plan because the system is constantly evolving." He also noted that the system is modular and additional components can be incorporated as needed or developed. The initial contract is for three years, and at that time, the city has the option to renew.

Jordan asked how the system will be introduced. Gaymon said the two systems would be run in

See COUNCIL, page 11

# Green Man Festival Brings Joy Despite Wet and Cold

by Melissa Sites



Drumming happens in tents during the wet Green Man Festival in Roosevelt Center on Saturday, May 7.

With music pulsating around its origins in 2003. The festival Roosevelt Center and bustling became a project of CHEARS happy crowds, the Green Man Festival brought a return of joy to Greenbelt in 2022. A cool and damp weekend could not discourage the flowering of the festival.

After the long hiatus caused by the pandemic, Greenbelters were elated to welcome the return of the Green Man along with the Beltsville Garden Club plant sale and the opening day of the Farmers Market. The festival also marks the start of concert season in the center.

Who or what is the Green Man? Common in the British Isles, but also appearing elsewhere, the Green Man is a folkloric image of a man's face sprouting leaves and vegetation, symbolizing seasonal regeneration as well as human unity with the natural world. The Green Man Festival has been a celebration of nature, the environment, ecology and local entertainment since (Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society) in 2008.

Drumming and a drum circle, facilitated by Katy Gaughan, opened the festival. From inside the New Deal Café, performers broadcast a variety of sounds out onto Roosevelt Center. The diverse lineup of musical acts included celebrated singer/songwriters Tom Prasada-Rao and Mike Elosh; acoustic folk performers Melissa Sites and Old Time duo Raincrow; Global Warming; the funky rock-pop of Soulfied Village; and the jazzy worldbeat chants of KIVA, a longtime favorite at the Green Man Festival.

Colorful handmade goods were presented by artist vendors such as BriteCloth TieDye, Gina Mai Denn Pottery, Hillside Cottage Crafts, Root Down Cleansing and The Purple Kiln glass

See GREEN MAN, page 6

# Council OKs Financial Software; The SPACE Brings Comics And Cosplay to Beltway Plaza

by Ian Blackwell Rogers



Attendees browse free comic books as Captain America (Brian Korzec) looks on.

Captain America, Morbius, Cyclops and Wonder Woman stalked the concourse of Beltway Plaza on Saturday, May 7, while passersby snapped selfies along with their colorfully clad heroes, and children and adults drew

their adventures in comic book panels.

The SPACE Free Art For All, Greenbelt's arts outreach nonprofit located in Beltway Plaza, hosted a Free Comic Book Day event with art activities and cosplayers - hobbyists who recreate themselves as superheroes. Free Comic Book Day is an international event of comic book publishers and comic book stores, held every

See COMICS, page 12

# Fire Department, CERT, CART Present FY 23 Budget Needs

by Matthew Arbach

The Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department (GVFD, represented by Chief Thomas Ray), the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Community Animal Response Team (CART), both represented by Laura Kressler, met with the Greenbelt City Council on Monday, May 2 to present their needs for the Fiscal Year 23 city budget.

# Information on **Police Shooting**

See page 9

# What Goes On

Monday, May 16

7:30 p.m. Budget Worksession: Public Works/Capital Projects, Municipal Building Wednesday, May 18

7 p.m., ACE Student Awards Ceremony

8:30 p.m., Budget Worksession: Public Works and Transportation, Municipal Building

See the city ad on page 5 and the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for more information.

Ray reported that the Greenbelt Fire Station is awaiting an additional HVAC unit to be installed sometime this month by the county, alongside one already

put in. Other station needs include repair work to the mortar exterior and attention to the pavement outside where pools of

See **BUDGET**, page 7



One of the two barred owl babies that fledged at Greenbelt Lake this spring

# **Letters to the Editor**

# Thanks for Forum Help

I am overdue in thanking all of my fellow Board Members of the Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club for their hard work in making the April 3 gubernatorial forum a success. Equally important were the sign interpreters, Lore Rosenthal and Morgan Lee, Greenbelt Access Television's Frank Gervasi and Phoebe McFarb, who were assisted by audio technicians Frank and Kathy Kayser. A key ingredient to keeping the forum moving

smoothly was the incomparable Dave Zahren, the program's moderator

The Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club can be helpful to Greenbelt area residents in providing information regarding the candidates running for Governor, Congress, the State's Attorney General, and Maryland's Comptroller. If you have any questions, check out the club's website, rooseveltclub.com or call 301-345-9369.

Konrad Herling President, Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club

# **Drop Us a Line!**

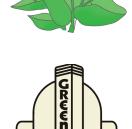
Electronically, that is.
editor@greenbelt
newsreview.com

# LISTEN to the NEWS REVIEW

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No special equipment needed





Old Greenbelt Theatre 129 Centerway 301-329-2034

www.greenbelttheatre.org

Members Always \$6.50! Member kids are always FREE!

Adults \$9, Kids \$6, Senior/Student/Military \$8

All shows before 5 PM: Adults \$7, Kids \$5

OC = Open Captions CC = Closed Captions DVS = Descriptive Video Service

# SHOWTIMES: MAY 13TH – MAY 16TH

PLEASE NOTE WE NOW HAVE TWO SCREENS:
SCREEN 1 (S1) -

MAIN AUDITORIUM, CAPPED AT 184 SCREEN 2 (S2) -

THE SCREENING ROOM, CAPPED AT 30

THE ROSE MAKER (NR) (2022) (95 MINS) PRESENTED IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

FRI. 5:00 PM, 7:30 PM SCREEN 1

SAT. 2:30 PM SCREEN 1 SUN. 2:30 PM, 5:00 PM SCREEN 1

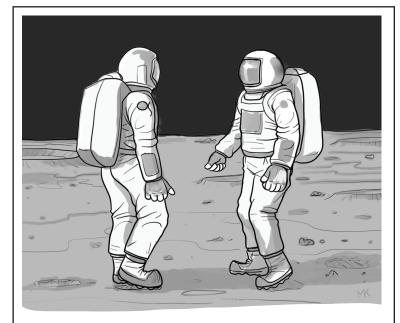
MON. 2:30 PM, 5:00 PM SCREEN 1

PETITE MAMAN (PG)
(2022) (72 MINS)
PRESENTED IN FRENCH
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

FRI. 5:30 PM, 8:00 PM SCREEN 2

SAT. 3:00 PM SCREEN 2 SUN. 3:00 PM, 5:30 PM SCREEN 2

MON. 3:00 PM, 5:30 PM SCREEN 2



Not sure how I am going to get my daily steps in.

- M. Kusie

# Teacher Appreciation Week



Sweets, drinks and a well-decorated teachers' lounge greet staff at Greenbelt Elementary School for teacher appreciation week during the first week of May, courtesy of the GES PTA.



ERHS PTSA President Dr. Berdenia Stanley (second from right) poses with teachers and staff at the Teacher Appreciation lunch on Friday, May 6.

# On Screen at Old Greenbelt Theatre

# The Rose Maker

(In French with subtitles)

Artisanal horticulturalist Eve Vernet (Catherine Frot) honors her father's legacy by continuing the family business, breeding and growing unique roses that compete in showcases all over France. But Eve's approach struggles to compete with the mass market production from her corporate rivals. With the business facing imminent bankruptcy or liquidation, Eve's trusted secretary, Vera, makes a last-ditch effort to turn things around by hiring three new employees from a prison rehabilitation program behind Eve's back. Fred, Samir and Nadege are misunderstood outcasts with fresh ideas, strong work ethics and absolutely no gardening skills. In a desperate attempt to save the business, the new team comes up with a perilous plan, and unexpectedly discovers new parts of life that are worth nurturing in this colorful and touching comedy about growing new creations in mature soil.

Not rated, running time 95 minutes

# Petite Maman

(In French with subtitles)

Following the death of her beloved grandmother, 8-year-old Nelly accompanies her parents to her mother's childhood home to begin the difficult process of cleaning out its contents. As Nelly explores the house and nearby woods, she is immediately drawn to a girl named Marion, a neighbor her own age who happens to be building a treehouse. What follows is a tender tale of childhood grief, memory and connection.

Rated PG, running time 72 minutes

# **Letters Policy**

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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# PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display Ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All Letters to the Editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
   Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified Ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot. as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.
Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the
Community Center's east door near the municipal building.

# **Community Events**

# Moyers' Film on ALEC



On Monday, May 16 at 7 p.m., Reel and Meal at the New Deal will screen The United States of ALEC, a film described in the press as "a report on the most influential corporate-funded political force most of America has never heard of - ALEC, the American Legislative Exchange Council." ALEC is a national consortium of state politicians and corporate stakeholders which, according to testimony in the film, operate a vast network of corporate lobbying and political action aimed at raising corporate profits at public expense and without public knowledge.

Produced in 2012 by veteran journalist Bill Moyers, the film depicts how the secretive body helps corporate America propose and even draft legislation for states across the country. It has come under increasing scrutiny for its role in promoting controversial legislation, such as standyour-ground laws, voter suppression bills and union-busting policies. "It's currently advocating a bill that would punish banks for divesting from fossil fuel," according to journalist Alex Kotch.

The film will be followed by a discussion led by David Armiak, research director with the Center for Media and Democracy. Armiak has conducted extensive investigations on dark money, corporate corruption, and rightwing networks.

This will be a hybrid event which can be attended either live at the New Deal Café, 113 Centerway, or via Zoom. Virtual attendance requires registration via tinyurl.com/ReelnMealMay16. Greenbelt's Co-op Supermarket will offer a vegan meal for a fee for virtual participants on Zoom. This month's selection is Macro Vegetarian creamy cashew carbonara with Tofurkey sausage and a side salad. Phone in pre-orders to 301-474-0522 by 1 p.m. on Monday for pick-up between 4 and 7 p.m. at the Co-op deli. Dinners may also be available on a walk-in basis. In-person attendees are encouraged, but not required, to purchase a meal at the Caté.

Two groups, the Utopia Film Festival and the Prince George's County Peace and Justice Coalition, organize the Reel and Meal monthly film series, which focuses on environmental, social justice and animal rights issues. This May program is planned by the Peace and Justice Coalition. For more information, visit the Reel and Meal Facebook page at facebook.com/reelandmealNDC or contact Doug Igelsrud at dougigelsrud@gmail.com.



More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

# Reeland Meal to Screen Greenbelt Unplugged **Zoom Event May 15**

On Sunday, May 15 from 1:30 to 3 p.m., Greenbelt Unplugged will host Rachael Pitts for a community event via Zoom. Many enjoyed Pitts' last session which explored eating and mindfulness – something that can be practiced every day. This month's session is even more practical - Breathwork. Breathwork is an incredibly powerful healing art used to unlock the connection to the deeper parts of the human consciousness. The ripple effect of partnering with the breath is a journey of radical inner and outer transformation, mysterious in its

For more information on Pitts' work, visit MorrisMaher.com. Her graduate training, in both functional nutrition and integrative wellness coaching, is complemented by years of apprenticeship in the fields of mindfulness, breathwork and the sacred. She provides in-person sessions in Greenbelt at The Granite Building.

The meeting ID is 869 1887 7769 and the passcode is 016110. To avoid typing errors, get a link to the meeting by sending an email to events@ greenbeltunplugged.org.

# **GHI Workday: Restore** The Woodland Edge

Volunteer and go home with free wildflower seedlings! The GHI Woodlands Committee is hosting a workday on Sunday, May 15 from 3 to 6 p.m. Wildflower seedlings will be planted on the woodland edge around the native plant propagation area. Volunteers may take home several native wildflower seedlings to raise for their own Greenbelt garden. Meet at the picnic table between 8 and 10 Courts Laurel Hill Road. The work site is next to the blackberry patch at the woodland edge.

Bring clothes that cover the skin, bug repellent, hand sanitizer, etc. Leather gloves and thick pants are recommended to protect against scratches. Tools and equipment will be provided, but personal shovels, trowels, or pruners are appreciated to facilitate other volunteers' involve-

For more information, contact SowingStrength2@gmail.com.

# Café Membership **Meeting May 22**

The New Deal Café will hold its annual membership meeting on Sunday, May 22 at 1 p.m. in the back room of the Café, located at 113 Centerway in Roosevelt Center. The meeting will include reports on the state of the Café, as well as elections for three positions on the Board of Directors (2-year terms) and three positions on the Audit Committee (1-year terms). There will also be a vote on a proposed bylaw change, which would make the membership year concurrent with the calendar year.

The Café is a member-owned and -managed cooperative, and all those members whose annual dues are current as of the time of the meeting are eligible to vote. For more information on the meeting and/or questions on membership status, contact the Café board secretary at social@ newdealcafe.com.

# At the Library

Greenbelt Library hours: Mondays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m.

# **Health and Safety**

Face masks continue to be required at county libraries for everyone ages 2 and up. The Library appreciates customers' assistance with maintaining a safe environment for children who are not yet eligible for Covid-19 vaccines and for customers and staff who have high risk for Covid-19.

Note that the Library has resumed presenting outdoor programs by the upper level entrance, weather permitting.

# STEM-tastic!

Tuesday, May 17, 4:30 p.m., ages 5 to 12 (elementary). Become a mad scientist by conducting hands-on, fun science experiments using basic scientific principles. Join in as we build robots with cubelet blocks, and celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month by learning about Asian Americans in STEM. Register at pgcmls.info/event/6372092.

# **Virtual Book Discussion**

Tuesday, May 17, 6:30 p.m. Join friends and neighbors for a lively virtual book discussion presented by the Greenbelt Library. This month the featured book is Dial A for Aunties, by Jesse Q. Sutanto. Register at pgcmls. info/event/6349397. Copies of this book may be available for borrowing. Customers may submit a request at: catalog. pgcmls.info/polaris/view. aspx?title=Dial+A+for+Aunties. Visit the Library or contact Ask a Librarian / Biblio Consulta at 240-455-5451 for assistance.

# **Events**

The following events will be held outdoors, weather permitting. Register online to attend.

Ready 2 Read Storytimes. Wednesdays, ages 3 to 5, 12:15 p.m.; Thursdays, ages 2 to 3, 11:15 a.m. Come for stories, songs, finger-plays and more.

Teen Action Group. Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m., ages 13 to 18. Need to earn community service hours? Come make a difference in the community, gain friends from around the area and make your voice heard.

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGC-MLS) now offers another method of earning student service learning (SSL) hours via the new VolunTEEN program.



# **Writers Group** Meets May 20

For the first time in two years, the Greenbelt Writers Group (GWG) will hold an in-person meeting. The meeting will be Friday, May 20 at 7 p.m. in the Community Center.

The third Friday of the month has been the traditional GWG meeting time. All members and interested writers are invited to attend to discuss future plans for the group. For the moment, masks will be required.

# **Art and Poetry** At Schrom Hills Park



# A young artist displays her Weathergram in part one of the workshop on Sunday, May 1.

Enjoy an afternoon of visual and literary arts at Schrom Hills Park, on Sunday, May 22. From 3 to 5 p.m., come to the picnic pavilion to create Weathergrams; use decorative hand-lettering to inscribe and illustrate snippets of poetry for a collaborative, outdoor installation. All ages welcome. No sign-up required; just drop in. From 4 to 6 p.m., attend a poetry reading in the Three Sisters Garden. Bring your own chair. Read a poem of your own or by someone else, or just listen and enjoy. Schrom Hills Park is located at 6915 Hanover Parkway.

# Springhill Lake Rec. **Invites Family Fun**

Families are invited to enjoy group games and drop-in gym time on Sunday, May 15 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Complimentary recreation equipment is available on site. Facility ID is required for participation. Contact Brian Butler for more information, 240-542-2213.



# **Reception & Art Share** At Municipal Building



Lapwing after Merian by John Rebstock

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts program invites local creatives to enjoy friendly conversation at the upcoming Art Share event, to be held on Friday, May 20 at 7 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Participants should bring one to three pieces of artwork, in any medium, to discuss. All experience levels are welcome. Come early (6:30 p.m.) for an informal reception in council chambers with painting students whose work is on display. Participating artists: Kemlyn Brazda, J. Gravatt, Amy Beckrich, Barbara J. Murray, Melissa Pickworth and John Rebstock. To RSVP, write to Amanda Larsen: alarsen@greenbeltmd.gov.

# Golden Age **May Activities**

On May 25, the Greenbelt Golden Age Club will have an in-person arts workshop at Schrom Hills Park. Mary Ann Lipovsky will demonstrate how to make alcohol ink abstract greeting cards and greeting cards will be made to take home. On May 18, there will be a Zoom meeting to celebrate May birthdays.

All meetings are on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. To join the Golden Agers email list or to obtain Zoom information, contact Becky Sutfin at rsutfin@greenbeltmd.



# **Greenbelt Access Television** May 13, Fri – May 19, Thu

Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77 (School Programming on Your Cable Guide) Streaming on www.greenbeltaccesstv.org

THIS WEEK on GATe • Your Community Access Station

7am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
8am	Democracy Now!	Yesterday's Syndicated Program
9am	GATe Classic Film • Romance/Comedy	My Favorite Brunette • 1947 • Bob Hope
11am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
Noon	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
1pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Hyattsville v Yorktown Elementary
2pm	Music at the New Deal	Vintage #18 • Soul-Blues
3pm	GATe Classic Film • Romance/Comedy	My Favorite Brunette • 1947 • Bob Hope
5pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Hyattsville v Yorktown Elementary
6pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
7pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
8pm	GATe Classic Film • Romance/Comedy	My Favorite Brunette • 1947 • Bob Hope
10pm	Music at the New Deal	Vintage #18 • Soul-Blues
11pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
MN	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
		<u> </u>

Connect with GATe 😝 🔼 🎯 www.greenbeltaccesstv.org

# **Obituaries**

# Roberta McNamara



Roberta McNamara

Roberta (Chiavetta) McNamara, 78, died on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, after a short illness.

She was born Roberta Leah Chiavetta in 1943 to Helen (Harris) and Kenneth Chiavetta. Her childhood was spent in the Columbus and Cleveland areas of Ohio; Elkins, W.Va.; Asheville and Lenoir, N.C.; and Greenbelt, as the family followed her father's work as a wildlife biologist. She attended the University of Maryland and there met and later married Michael F. McNamara on Valentine's Day, 1965. Motherhood followed soon after with the birth of their son, Douglas, followed closely by another son, Kenneth. She was married to Michael for 33 years before he died suddenly in 1998.

She was an active member of the Greenbelt and Richmond, Va., communities during their sons' childhood, serving multiple terms as a North End Elementary PTA board member as well as a term as president. She put her significant writing skills to use as a volunteer writer and editor at the Greenbelt News Review as well as serving terms as its business manager and vice president. She additionally wrote for the Reflector, a publication produced for the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

In her later years in the Balti-

**CATHOLIC COMMUNITY** 

of GREENBELT

During the pandemic, we

gather VIRTUALLY for

Liturgy of the Word

Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!** For ZOOM link:

FDeBernardo@aol.com

Greenbelt

**BAPTIST** 

CHURCH

Christ-centered

Biblical

& Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD

www.greenbeltbaptist.org

more County community, she was a dedicated member of the Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Catonsville. Her participation included Church Council member, Worship Life Committee, Pastor Asendorf's Mutual Ministry Committee, Guardians of Eden, leading the Maundy Thursday luncheon and as a longtime member of the book group.

A lifelong learner, she took great interest in discussing current events with her grandchildren and greatly valued hearing their insights and thoughts. They have very fond memories of going with her and other church members out on a boat with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation to assess the health of the Bay and wonder at the life in the water. She had an uncanny knack for remembering who had an interest in what and always remembered that in her conversations and birthday gifts.

Roberta was predeceased by her parents Helen and Kenneth Chiavetta and husband Michael F. McNamara and is survived by sister Rebecca Swartz of Crofton; son Douglas McNamara of Catonsville; son Kenneth McNamara and daughter-in-law Dana; grandchildren Leah and Michael, all of Arlington, Va., and niece Kristi Swartz, of Atlanta, Ga.

The family will receive friends on Monday, May 16 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Eline Funeral Home in Reisterstown. A celebration of life will be held on Tuesday, May 17 at 10 a.m. at Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Catonsville. Following the service, the congregation will proceed to St. John's Cemetery in Ellicott City for the interment. Immediately after interment, the group is invited to a luncheon at Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations in Roberta's memory be made to the Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church (General Fund).

# Hear State Legislation Report Curfeighbors Live from Greenbriar May 20

by Konrad Herling



From left, Alonzo Washington, Anne Healey, Paul Pinsky and Nicole Williams

services.

345-9369.

The Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club's annual visit with our State delegation to review critical legislation will take place Friday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m. live from the Greenbriar Community building. Senator Paul Pinsky and Delegates Anne Healey, Alonzo Washington and Nicole Williams will provide an in-depth analysis as to why key bills passed or did not pass.

Among the bills that received final passage were a compromise to increase local budgets for highway repairs, measures to enhance Maryland's cybersecurity response efforts, and passage of the ghost guns bill that banned the sale and possession of untraceable guns.

Additionally, the legislature voted to ban fire-fighting (PFAS) foam, legislation which also applies to certain food packaging, rugs and carpeting. PFAS has been linked to certain cancers, decreased fertility and hypertension for pregnant women.

The legislature also approved legislation to accelerate greenhouse gas reduction goals, to cut taxes and to increase access to



"The betterment of the world can be accomplished through pure and goodly deeds, through commendable and seemly conduct." - Bahá'u'lláh



# Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

# UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST God is still speaking. Greenbelt In-Person Worship Community **Has Resumed** Church One Hillside Road Sunday at 10:15 AM Whoever you are and wherever you are on your Spiritual journey, you are welcome HERE. m/GCCUCCMD .greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

# ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am\*, Sat 9am\* • Sunday Mass:
- Sat vigil 5pm\*
- o Sun 8am, 9:30am,11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm 4pm.
- Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

**CELEBRATE WITH US** 135 Crescent Rd.

www.sthughofgrenoble.org





Condolences to the family and friends of former Greenbelt resident, Roberta McNamara. During her years here, she served on the staff of the Greenbelt News Review and on the board of the North End Elementary School

Send details of your news items to editor@ greenbeltnewsreview.com.



# **DeBernardo Authors Book on Mychal Judge**

Greenbelt resident Francis De-Bernardo has written Mychal Judge: Take Me Where You Want Me to Go, about Franciscan priest Mychal Judge, who was immortalized in a photo taken on September 11, 2001, as his lifeless body was carried from the rubble of the World Trade Center. Father Judge was also known for his struggles, accomplishments, compassion and faith. The book is published by Liturgical Press of Collegeville, Minn.

# **Thomas Simon Memorial Service**

clinics which provided abortion

to passage; among these were

legislation that would have pro-

vided safe harbor for victims of

check the club's webpage at

rooseveltclub.com or call 301-

For more information,

child sex trafficking.

Not all bills made it through

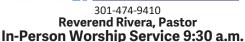
The memorial service for Thomas Simon will be held Saturday, June 4. Those who wish to receive more information should email Nora Simon at mail@norasimon.com.



# **Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church** 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt



Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc



The Bible Says...

Prayer is our God-given answer to fear.

Be angry, and yet do not sin Ephesians 4:26



**IN PERSON Sunday Worship Services** 10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School

MCFcc.org

# Mishkan Torah Congregation



An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm Saturday morning services at 10:00am All services and activities are currently virtual For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

# Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi Phone: 301-937-3666 Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

www.pbuuc.org



Oh God! Language of Reverence in Unitarian

Universalism

May 15 10 a.m.

Rev. Ann Kadlecek with Worship Associate Diana McFaddin Blessing, Faith, Salvation, Prayer, Worship... there's a whole religious vocabulary available to us - if we want it. Which words will we use, and how will we use them? What is our language of reverence?

# City Notes

At the City Job Fair, the Police Department, Aquatic & Fitness Center, Community Center and others with job openings welcomed candidates including CARES's job search participants.

Street Maintenance/Special Details provided banners, tables, barrels, etc. for the Job Fair, Beltsville Garden Club plant sale, Green Man Festival and Farmers Market.

Horticulture/Parks removed a hazardous tree on Hanover Parkway and prepared the greenhouse for annual plants. Refuse/ Recycling collected 27.46 tons of refuse and 10.91 tons of recyclables.

Museum staff researched preserving a disk from the stump of an over-200-year-old white oak that was recently cut down.

The Virtual Recreation Center features Summer Camp, Teen Takeover and Friday Night Family Futsal. The Aquatic & Fitness Center reopened the hot tub.

The Community Center welcomed back several groups: Astronomical Society of Greenbelt, the Arts Advisory Board and the Public Safety Advisory Committee.

Therapeutic Recreation delivered frozen meal packs for 27 seniors. Park rangers assisted with Girl Scout meetings at Schrom Hills Park.

# Greenbelt PORCH, **Meeting Needs**

Greenbelt PORCH continues to support the St. Hugh Food Pantry through donor generosity.

Those who live in neighborhoods without a monthly food drive (see the schedule below) can help through P.A.L. (PORCH At Large). To participate, contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com with the address by noon on Sunday, May 15 and leave the donation by the front door marked RUAK or PORCH visible from the street. Ensure donated items are not past their 'use by' date.

Here is the May pick-up schedule:

Sunday, May 15: between 2 and 4 p.m. for all of Boxwood Village and P.A.L. members; between 3 and 6 p.m. for Lakeside

Saturday, May 21, between 9 and 10 a.m. for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill Road.

Sunday, May 22, by 3 p.m. in the Woodland Hills neighborhood; by 4 p.m. for 9 and 12 Courts Ridge Road.

Volunteers who would like to expand Greenbelt PORCH to additional neighborhoods in Greenbelt are welcome. Anyone with questions or who is interested in being a volunteer or starting a new neighborhood for monthly food collection with Greenbelt PORCH, contact Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com.



# **Homeschoolers Meet** For Fun and Games

Join Homeschoolers for field day games and playground fun, weather permitting, at the playground at Ivy and Lastner Lanes. Bring a brown bag lunch, water, blanket, chair, ball, Frisbee, etc. Consider bug spray and sunscreen, and don't forget to check for ticks after playtime. Organized by Li'l Dan 240-643-3768; dceldran@hotmail.com.

# City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

## **MEETINGS FOR MAY 16-20**

Monday, May 16 at 7:30 pm, BUDGET WORK SESSION - PUBLIC WORKS / CAPITAL PROJECTS (in-person)

Tuesday, May 17 at 6 pm, EMPLOYEE RELATIONS BOARD, On the Agenda: Hearing Procedures, Executive Session 6:30 pm (meeting subject to closed session), Other Business

Wednesday, May 18 at 7 pm, ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD, On the Agenda: Call to Order, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes of May 11, 2022, Draft Greenbelt Road Corridor Plan, New Business,

Wednesday, May 18 at 7 pm, PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE, On the Agenda: Continued Planning of Upcoming Community Policing Forums

Wednesday, May 18 at 7 pm, ACE STUDENT AWARDS CEREMONY (in-person) - Budget Work Session to Follow

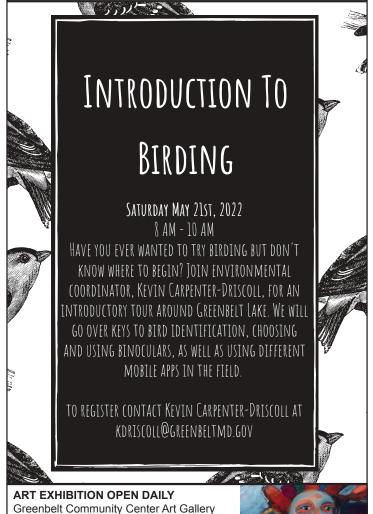
Wednesday, May 18 at 8:30 pm, BUDGET WORK SESSION -PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION (in-person), This work session immediately follows Ace Student Awards Ceremony

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov

# **COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES:**

- Advisory Committee on Education
- Arts Advisory Board
- **Board of Elections**
- Community Relations Advisory Board
- Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability
- Park and Recreation Advisory Board

# Youth Advisory Committee



Through May 20 Mondays - Fridays, 9 am - 9 pm

Satudays, 9 am - 6 pm Sundays, 9 am - 7 pm

Jessica Damen, Judith Kornett, and Pamela Phillips

# **GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER** IS SEEKING NEW TEAM MEMBERS!

If you enjoy working with the public, please apply at www.greenbeltmd.gov/jobs

Recreation Assistants (Community Center)

Part-time, supportive work culture.

# **GREENBELT RECREATION 2022 SUMMER CAMP GUIDE**

Greenbelt Recreation's 2022 Summer Camp Guide has been posted! Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation for more information

# NOT FOR SENIORS ONLY CREATIVE CONNECTIONS DURING TIME OF COVID

Saturday June 4 | Virtual on Zoom | 1 pm Register at: bit.ly/NFSRO22

# **DEMENTIA FRIENDLY AMERICA NORTHERN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY PRESENTS OPEN AIR RESOURCE FAIR**

Tuesday, May 24 | 10 am - 2 pm To register visit: bit.ly/3M2DQJ5



Friday, May 20 | 6:30 - 8:30am

Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center parking lot. Celebrate the 10th year of the Greenbelt Pit Stop! Free registration at biketoworkmetrodc.org

# CELEBRATION OF SPRING! Springhill Lake Recreation Center Saturday, May 21 | 2 - 6 pm

Come enjoy arts and crafts, music, inflatable games, refreshments, community information tables, and a magic show with Greenbelt Recreation Department and your neighbors and friends. Children and parents alike will be delighted on this fun filled day. This will be the perfect free family event to help shake off the cold days of winter as we spring into action during our Celebration of Spring.

Please call the weather information hotline, 301) 474-0646, the morning of the event for updated event status.



# DRAFT GREENBELT ROAD CORRIDOR PLAN NOW AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT

Public Comment Period: May 10 - May 31

The City of Greenbelt and Kittelson & Associates, Inc are pleased to share the Draft Greenbelt Road Corridor Plan. This plan aims to create a cohesive vision for the future of Greenbelt Road with short and long-term recommendations.

By visiting the Greenbelt Road Corridor Plan website at https://www. greenbeltmd.gov/government/greenbelt-road-md-193-corridor-plan you can view and download the plan, submit your comments via our online form, and find more information on the plan.

# FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION ¡GRATIS! DISTRIBUCION DE VERDURAS

Thursday, May 19 1 - 3 pm

jueves, 19 de mayo 1 - 3 pm

**Greenbelt Community Center** 

15 Crescent Road

Centro Communitario de Greenbelt

# FREE COMMUNITY NURSING PROGRAM

The City of Greenbelt's Assistance in Living Program (GAIL) in partnership with Bowie State & Washington Adventist University Schools of Nursing are proud to resume offering this program to Greenbelt seniors age 60+ or disabled adults 50+ residing within incorporated City limits.

For more information visit: https://bit.ly/3OBoe19

# **Mosquito Control**

Protect yourself and your home from mosquitoes this summer. Visit https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/departments-con-t/publicworks/mosquito-control for tips on mosquito control and preventing West Nile Virus

# Greenbelt ARPA Funds Assistance Programs Update (as of 4/25/22)

Rent and Utility Assistance 267 Greenbelt Households were granted assistance totaling \$1,087,532.47

Mortgage and HOA fee Assistance • 9 Greenbelt Households were granted astsistance totaling \$18,122.75

# **GREENBELT RECREATION IS HIRING!**

\* CAMP MANAGERS \* CAMP COUNSELORS \* \* CAMP SPECIALISTS \* INCLUSION COUNSELORS \* \* CAMP INTERNS \* \*MUSIC & MOVEMENT TEACHERS \*

\*THESE SEASONAL SUMMER POSITIONS OFFER EMPLOYMENT FROM MID-JUNE THROUGH LATE AUGUST. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON JOB OPENINGS AND APPLICATION DETAILS VISIT: WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV/JOBS

LIFE GUARDS, POOL MANAGERS, AQUATIC INSTRUCTORS, CUSTOMER SERVICE POSITIONS. PERSONAL TRAINERS. ART INSTRUCTORS & ASSISTANTS

# Police Chief Bowers Reviews Budget and Crime in the City

by Matthew Arbach

Greenbelt Police Department (GPD) and Animal Control are primary recipients of the Public Safety budget, which comprises two-thirds of the city's overall budget. GPD Chief Richard Bowers, Lieutenant Jermaine Gulledge and Public Information Officer Hannah Glasgow sat down with council on Monday, May 2 to discuss their staffing and equipment needs in Fiscal Year 23, as well as the state of crime in the city in areas like violent crime and theft, which mirrors a nationwide increase.

# **Crime Statistics**

Bowers gave an update on the police shooting on May 2, reporting that the investigation of the incident is in the hands of the Prince George's County Homicide Unit and the internal investigation under the scrutiny of the police department. Regarding the apartment invasion and theft at Franklin Park, Bowers urged residents to always inform neighbors if one is going out of town as a basic precaution, and recommended installing security cameras.

In 2021, Bowers said that the overall quantity of crime increased 7 percent. Violent crime was 16 percent of crime throughout the city, with the rest being property crime at 84 percent. Corresponding to a 25 percent increase in robberies, violent crime rose 9 percent. Property crime rose by 6 percent overall, mostly in relation to a 58 percent increase in car thefts. Auto thefts (at 112) and robberies (at 69) are two other categories that have

Concerning violent crime, the main areas of the city ranked as follows: Franklin Park at 358 incidents of violent crime, Greenbelt Center at 157, Greenbelt East residential at 144, Beltway Plaza at 143, Greenbelt East commercial at 135, Greenbelt Station at 18 and Greenbelt Metro at 4.

Mayor Emmett Jordan suggested looking more at actual numbers, rather than percentages as it gives a clearer picture, with Bowers in agreement.

Bowers reported that current crime numbers have seen a decrease so far this year, speculating that the department's new engagement procedures are having an effect. Last year, carjackings were of great concern to the community, which Bowers characterized as "a crime of opportunity," with the most happening

**Auto Auction** 

April 30-May 10, 2022, 11am-1pm

2006 MERCEDES BENZ WDDDJ76X96A042400

1969 BUICK SKYLARK 9499032895

1996 CHEVROLET **IMPALA** 1GIBL52P3TR171860

**2011 JEEP CHEROKEE** 1J4RR6GTXBC721020

**2001 TOYOTA CELICA** JTDDR32TX10105369

during the winter months.

Thefts from autos can often be difficult, if not impossible, to solve if there are items that cannot be traced, unlike computers or phones. Wheels and rims have computer chips that can be used to alert the authorities. Bowers singled out catalytic convertors, especially those in hybrid vehicles, as a high reward theft, as they can be recycled for their valuable rare earth metals. Bowers recommended having these parts etched with identification numbers to help trace them. He stated that simply not leaving items in one's car and parking in well-lit areas is a deterrent, decreasing temptation and opportunity.

The Ring Alarm Security System is being used widely in the city, especially in Greenbelt Station. The police department cannot directly solicit data from residents but can put out a general query that users can volunteer to answer.

# **Staffing**

Police staffing was a crucial subject in the meeting. The department is authorized to have 53 officers. Currently, the effective number is 46, when factoring in training and retirements. The number of applicants has dropped precipitously; Bowers said that the last test brought in three applicants, when past numbers could reach 60. He stated that the department is mostly successful in keeping their people, once hired.

Council and Bowers discussed the recent and likely future rise in population from new development, such as Beltway Plaza, stressing the need to increase officer numbers, even up to 55, to perform duties properly. Bowers said that it will have to be an incremental process each year of

Whereas in the past white males were the sizeable majority among officers and supervisory staff, now 60 percent are people of color. Female staff is at 20 percent - a statistic in keeping with national averages.

Councilmember Judith Davis attributed this drop in number of applicants to the recent controversial instances of sometimes deadly police misconduct, where sadly a once widely-respected profession has now become "demonized."

Animal Control is in the process of hiring an additional halftime employee to augment the two current full-time ones. Bowers said that this is "a difficult job to fill." Residents who are experiencing a dangerous situation with an animal are encouraged to call the police station directly, with the request being directed to the county if police staff are not available. All other needs, like pet adoptions, can be dealt with directly from the Ani-

was another major topic of discussion. Bowers said that 27 cars have over 100,000 miles, and eight of those have been designated by Public Works as in need of being deadlined, something they cannot do because the cars are needed. The four cars approved in last year's budget have yet to arrive, perhaps requiring another 52 weeks as they require police outfitting. The department is asking for 10 vehicles this year, with a likely delay expected.

vehicles, while definitely planned for the future, are still not a feasible choice for patrol cars, as the time it takes to charge them throughout the day would hamper officers' ability to answer calls. A typical patrol car runs eight to 10 hours per day. City and home charging infrastructure is currently lacking, with a home unit (police officers often take

# **Auto Auction**

April 29-May 9, 2022,

10am-12pm

**2018 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER** JA4AR3AW8JUO24744

2016 HONDA PILOT 5RNYF6H14GB114998

2006 GMC YUKON 1GKFK66U56J155314

1965 CHEVROLET **IMPALA** 

# mal Control office. **Vehicle Fleet** The police department fleet

Bowers explained that electric

See POLICE, page 11

6616467

# art. Activities for children and the cal groups such as United Poultry

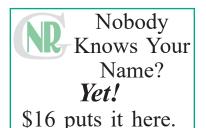
GREEN MAN continued from page 1

young at heart included building center with sidewalk chalk. Lo-

Concerns, Greenbelt Climate Acfairy gardens and decorating the tion Network and CHEARS also offered information tables.



Melissa Sites sings in the New Deal Café at the Green Man Festival on Sunday, May 8.



www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com

# **Philharmonic Plays**

The Prince George's Philharmonic presents its season finale concert this Sunday, May 15 at 3:30 p.m. at Dekelboum Concert Hall, The Clarice, University of Maryland, College Park. Visit theclarice.umd.edu/events or call 301-446-3245 for more information



# **NOTICE OF New Deal Café ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

# May 22, 2022 1:00 p.m. In person at the Café

113 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Sign-in & payment of annual dues begins at 12:30 p.m.

# \*\* NOTICE REGARDING ABSENTEE BALLOTS \*\*

If a member cannot attend the meeting in person for any reason, an Absentee Ballot for the Board of Directors will be accepted. **Contact the Board Secretary at** <social@newdealcafe.com> for more information about the process for submitting an Absentee Ballot.

# NOTICE OF PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Article III. Membership, Section 1. Qualifications

# **CURRENT TEXT**

b. "...The membership year begins the day of an annual meeting and ends the day before the following annual meeting."

# **PROPOSED CHANGE**

b. "...The membership year begins on January 1 and ends on December 31."

# **Elections will be held for:**

**Board of Directors [3 positions] Audit Committee [3 positions]** 

View the complete agenda www.newdealcafe.com

Come early and enjoy a delicious lunch!



LOOKING FOR A GREAT LOCAL REALTOR?

I am a Prince George's County native, UMD graduate, and have lived in the DC/MD area for over 40 years.

Let me help you sell your home or find a new one. I also live in Greenbelt!

Check out my website for client testimonials: www.longandfoster.com/MelanieCantwell and send me an email: Melanie.Cantwell@LNF.com

# Melanie Cantwell

Realtor® MD & DC 9094 Baltimore Ave, College Park, MD 20740 C: 240-470-5911/ O: 301-441-9511



# Community Safety and Policing: What's Your Experience, Opinion?

by Peggy Higgins and Stan Zirkin

Public safety and the role of police in communities are important conversations occurring throughout the country as well as in Greenbelt, as shown by the recent action of the city council mandating changes in the police department's general orders.



Later this month and in June, there will be multiple opportunities for Greenbelters to share their opinions and experiences on policing in the city, as well as their opinions on their individual neighborhood's public safety priorities.

The purpose of these events is to engage and learn from the views of as many residents as possible on the functioning of the Greenbelt Police Department – and how improvements could be made.

The sponsors of this event are interested in broadening the circle of Greenbelters who engage and respond, especially residents who don't usually participate in these discussions and thus whose opinions aren't usually considered.

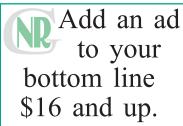
Four forums of community conversations on policing will be held across the city. The first forum is an in-person event on Thursday, June 9 at 7 p.m. at Greenbriar Community Center; the second forum is an in-person Spanish-language event on Monday, June 13 at 7 p.m. at Springhill Lake Recreation Center; the third forum is a Zoom event on Thursday, June 16 at 7 p.m.; and the fourth event is an in-person youth forum on Saturday, June 18 at 5 p.m. at Springhill Lake Recreation Center. As an extra incentive, Giant Food gift cards will be raffled off during the June 9 and June 13 forums and pizza will be provided at the June 18 youth forum.

Kris Marsh, an associate professor at the University of Maryland, is the forum facilitator. Marsh's most recent research and academic endeavors center on improving police-community relations. She was appointed to the Prince George's County Police Reform Task Force in 2020 and is the chair of the task force's Subcommittee on Recruiting, Hiring, Training, Promotions & Evaluations, Human Resources and Mental Health. Marsh also serves on the President's University of Maryland Task Force on Community Policing.

A 10-question survey will be available online around mid-May via the city website at greenbeltmd.gov and during the June forum period. Greenbelters' opinions collected through the survey and forums will be used as an important foundation to understand what further work needs to be done to improve and build trust and mutual respect between residents and Greenbelt police.

This initiative is sponsored by the city's Public Safety Advisory Committee, Community Relations Advisory Committee, Greenbelt Racial Equity Alliance and Connecting Across Greenbelt.

All residents age 16 and up are encouraged to participate and encouraged to invite at least three of their neighbors to participate



www. Green belt News Review. com

# BUDGET continued from page 1

water present a safety hazard.

A Pierce fire engine was purchased in 2020, in conjunction with another from 2014. Ray explained that engines have a 15-year life span, making 2029 the year that the older engine will need to be replaced.

Both a utility truck from 2005 and the chief's buggy from 2008 are high in mileage, with the former likely to be replaced this year or the beginning of next year.

Ray said that relations with the county are "fine at the station level," with an atmosphere prevailing of "accomplishing one goal" and "working together."

Those wishing to become volunteers are encouraged to either stop by the station or refer to the website engine35.com, scrolling down to "Recruitment."

# CERT

CERT, which has 18 current members, 65 percent of whom are city residents, is asking for \$1,500, their usual yearly request. The breakdown of costs consists of: \$500 for a lost person's behavior training course, \$900 for the renovation of the interior of the CERT trailer to better store equipment and \$100 for a CERT mobile app that uses GPS to monitor things like building damage in the case of an emergency.

CERT has had a busy year of diverse training, such as Stop the Bleed, which teaches how to save a life from a knife or gunshot wound; Narcan training; skywarn weather spotter course; and a variety of trainings offered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Some of CERT's team goals are: a tabletop exercise with the

county's CERT teams, an extreme event game exercise for both CERT and CART, and possible collaborations with the Greenbelt Police Department and GVFD.

The county has recently done background checks and issued IDs to its CERT participants. Greenbelt CERT will assess this effort and then decide whether to provide IDs to city CERT members as well.

# **CART**

CART has 19 active members, 13 of whom are residents. This past year CART had many Covid-related events with CERT, such as food distributions and working at the county's Office of Emergency Management Emergency Operations call center.

A major training was with Your Dog's Friend Foundation, which offered workshops on subjects like body language of dogs, post-traumatic stress disorder in dogs and pet emergencies. CART was involved in many of the same trainings at CERT, such as Stop the Bleed, as well as several FEMA trainings focused on animals in disaster situations.

CART's primary proposed purchase is for a laptop computer with software to manage several areas, such as: all pet admissions to a temporary shelter, all volunteer hours and required personnel information and all required shelter documents.

CART is asking for \$1,500 as well. Regarding the laptop, the price was left out, as CART will be in discussions with the city's IT Department on possible avenues to acquire it, either as a used city machine or through government channels.

Kressler explained that due to

a misunderstanding concerning budgetary protocol, last year's funds for both CERT and CART were not able to be used and thus were returned to the city, with all of last year's proposed purchases being moved to the coming year.

The CART trailer is expected soon, and is being outfitted with logos of groups that CART has been sponsored by, like The American Kennel Club and the Hyattsville Dog Training Club.

At the conclusion of her presentation, Kressler said that CERT and CART are trained for dealing with many contingencies in the event of a disaster in the city, including setting up evacuation spots, such as at the Community Center, creating temporary animal shelters and turning off gas mains and water lines.







PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Meeting of the GHI Board of Directors on

May 19, 2022

# A. GHI Open Meeting – open to members and visitors – (starts at 7:00 p:m)

- a) Certification of Election by Chair, N&E Committee
- b) Board Re-organization and Election of Officers
- c) Code of Ethics Acknowledgement
- d) Appointment of Member Complaint Panels
- e) Designation of GDC Stockholders
- f) Proposed Meeting Dates for the Remainder of 2022
- g) Approve Minutes of the Open Meeting Held on April 7, 2022
- h) Buildings Committee Report re: Plumbing Repair and Refurbishment Pilot Program i) Request the Investment Committee to Recommend an Investor Firm to Invest GHI
- Funds Based on Bids Received
- j) Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on June 2, 2022
- k) Item of Information: Status of WSSCs 2022 Sewer Rehab Project

# B. GHI Closed Meeting – (closed to members and visitors) – begins after the GHI Open Meeting ends

- a) Approve Minutes of the Closed Meeting Held on April 7, 2022
- b) Consider Approval of the Following Contracts
  - 2022 Contract re: Roof Replacements for Frame Homes and Garages 2nd reading
  - 2022 Contract for Exterior Repairs to Masonry Homes 2nd reading
- Extension of Contract for IT Provider Services 1st reading
- c) Request by a Non-Member for Permission to Reside in a GHI Unit
- d) Request by a Member for a Rental Permit Extension
- e) Request by a Member for an Exception to the Two-Year Profit Limitation Provision in the MOC
- f) Member Financial Matters
- g) Member Complaint Matters
- h) Item of Information: Rental Permit Granted to a Member

Members and visitors who wish to attend the GHI Open meeting must register in advance for this meeting via the following link:

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

# St. Hugh's RUMMAGE SALE



Saturday and Sunday May 21st and May 22nd 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

135 Crescent Road • Greenbelt, MD



**Doctors Community Medical Center** 

# Comprehensive breast care in Prince George's County

Luminis Health Doctor's Community Medical Center (LHDCMC) provides high-quality services for breast care, including:

- 3-D mammogram screenings
- Digital mammogram screenings and diagnostics
- Breast cancer surgery using hidden scar techniques
- High risk and genetic counseling
- Oncology services
- Nurse navigation
- Plastic surgery (including breast reconstruction)



The breast care center is led by Dr. Regina Hampton, a breast surgeon with more than 15 years of experience. Call **301-552-7805**, or make an appointment online at **dchweb.org/breast**.

In addition to breast surgery, LHDCMC offers a variety of surgical services including general surgery, orthopedic surgery, thoracic surgery and more.

**Dr. Regina Hampton,**Medical Director of the Breast Center at LHDCMC

# **Police Blotter**

Incidents reported here occurred from May 2 through May 8. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Note that the times provided are when the incidents were reported.

# **Attempted Robbery**

On May 4 at 2:27 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a perpetrator pepper-sprayed a store employee and attempted to break into a jewelry case, but missed and instead damaged a mirror before fleeing.

# Assault

On May 2 at 10:55 p.m. near 6200 Springhill Drive, a man wearing all black put a knife to the victim's throat and ripped the victim's shirt, leaving minor injuries. On May 4 at 7 a.m. near 7500 Greenbelt Road, a dispute between coworkers turned physical. On May 7 at 4:40 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, an attempted commercial theft turned physical between store employees and suspects.

# Break-ins

On May 2 at 7:44 p.m. near 5900 Springhill Drive, someone attempted to break into the residence through a sliding glass door, but because it was locked with a locking bar the suspect fled. On May 2 at 11:38 p.m. near 9300 Edmonston Road, a man attempted to break into an occupied residence and was arrested. On May 3 at 4:52 p.m. near 9300 Edmonston Road, an unknown man was attempting to enter an apartment using a key; when confronted by the leaseholder, he stated he was sent to do maintenance on the apartment, but left after the interaction. The leaseholder then confirmed with maintenance that they had not sent anyone.

# **Found**

A stolen bicycle was found on May 8 near 100 Westway.

# Fraud

Card fraud was reported May 4 near 6100 Breezewood Court, and telephone fraud was reported May 6 near 6800 Megan Lane.

# Theft from Auto

Vehicle windows were broken and personal property stolen: on May 4 near 6000 Springhill Drive (another vehicle, left unlocked, had the ignition tampered with); on May 6 near 6000 Greenbelt Road; on May 8 near 7800 Walker Drive; and on May 8 near 6200 Springhill Court. On May 8 near 7200 Hanover Drive, a driver-side window was cracked and driver-side rear window broken, and personal property was stolen. Another vehicle had a smashed window, and nothing taken. A third vehicle had a window smashed, but it was unknown if anything was stolen. On May 8 near Ora Glen Drive and Frankfort Drive, a car window was broken, but nothing taken. On May 4 near 6400 Cherrywood Lane, personal property was stolen from a vehicle. On May 8 near 6000 Springhill Drive, theft from auto was reported. On May 2 near Crescent Road, the rear license plate was stolen. On May 4 near 400 Ridge Road, the driverside key lock and ignition were stolen. On May 5 near 6100 Breezewood Drive, airbags were stolen from three 2017 Honda Civics and two 2018 Honda Civics. On May 5 near 6000 Springhill Drive, all four rims and tires were stolen from a 2020 Toyota Corolla. On May 5 near 400 Ridge Road, a driver-side key lock was damaged.

# Theft

Commercial thefts were reported on May 2 and May 8 near 100 Centerway, and on May 7 near 6100 Greenbelt Road.

# **Threats**

On May 3 at 4:08 p.m. near 7800 Mandan Road, victims were being sent death threats from an unknown number.

# Vandalism

On May 2 at 4:48 p.m. near 6100 Breezewood Court, a residence window was broken. On May 6 at 4:18 p.m. near 100 Westway, a fire extinguisher was sprayed in common areas despite there being no fire. On May 8 at 9:59 p.m. near 5800 Cherrywood Terrace, tires were slashed with a sharp object after a parking spot dispute.

# Press See Body Camera Images from May Shooting

by Amy Hansen and Sandy Rodgers

On May 11, Greenbelt Police held a special press conference for the media to review police body camera images from the May 2 shooting. There were 6 different media outlets represented. They were asked to turn off their cameras while the footage was being shown, to respect the privacy of those involved.

"We are showing the body camera footage as an act of transparency from the police during the use of force" said Police Chief Richard Bowers.

Before the police body cameras started, at approximately 10:29 a.m. on May 2, a Greenbelt resident of Plateau Place called 911 saying he was suicidal. Two Greenbelt police officers responded within six minutes, and with body cameras rolling they knocked on the door.

The video showed a man coming out of the house holding a knife and moving toward the police. The police backed away and asked the man to put down the knife. The man continued to move forward with the knife..

The police fired five shots each (10 shots all together), hitting the man and sending him to

the ground. The whole incident took 21 seconds. The man was transported to the hospital where he is recovering.

Bowers said no surrounding houses or vehicles were struck by stray bullets. The man's actions are being investigated by the Prince George's County Police, while the Greenbelt Police are investigating the actions of the police, Bowers added.

Without critiquing the officers' response to that particular incident, Bowers said that Greenbelt does not currently have co-responders for mental health crisis calls, but added such a person is in the budget requests for the next fiscal year. "We are always trying to find different ways to handle mental health calls."







# 10R Southway \$195,000

Set far back in the 10 court of Southway, you'd never guess from its serene and shaded surroundings how convenient it is to everything. This fully upgraded unit has several unique and stylish elements: beautiful blue tiling in kitchen and bathroom, decorative iron stair railings to the second floor, and dark wood beams in the living room.



# COMING SOON 13S Ridge \$310,000

Be on the lookout for this brick unit to hit the market soon! Highlights include an addition with full bath and sitting room, entry-level laundry, new paint throughout and easy access to Roosevelt Center.

# Kim Kash

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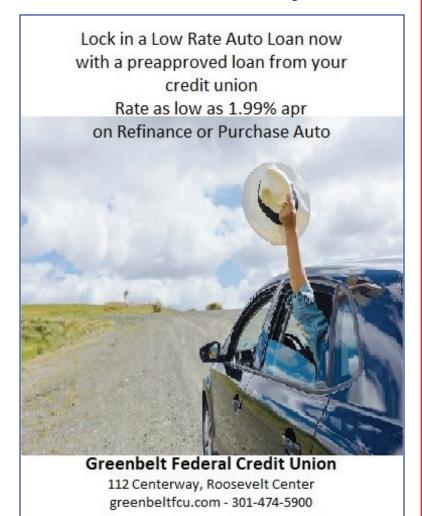
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# COUNCIL continued from page 1

parallel for comparison purposes and that the two phases of system implementation would take from six or seven months to perhaps 11 months, with Wray more conservative than she.

# **Evictions**

Franklin Park resident, Marcella Guerrero, spoke for herself and others who are getting eviction notices for non-payment of rent. Wearing a CASA of Maryland sweatshirt, and with the assistance of a Spanish translator provided by CASA, she requested more rental assistance be directed to her community because problems resulting from the pandemic were going to put families out on the street. Council responded that there were already measures in place through the city and the county to provide such support and requested that Greenbelt CARES staff should investigate the concerns. (Editor's Note: The city website states that CARES is not currently accepting applications for rental assistance and suggests "in the interim, you can reach out to these other county resources ...." The webpage appears to be provided in English only.)

# **Pathway**

Daniel Gomez and Kevin Hammett requested the revitalization of the existing asphalt pathway that runs between Greentree Place and Periwinkle Court and its extension to Lastner Lane. The easements exist and two sets of stairs and some asphalt remain but have become eroded.

# Mosquito Control

Evelyn Crellin spoke about the city's participation in the county mosquito spraying program. She pointed out that pesticides kill the weakest mosquitos, resulting in a pesticide-resistant population. She noted that spraying harms the environment and is toxic to humans and other creatures, including songbirds and pollinators already close to extinction. Fears of West Nile virus had, she noted, caused an overreaction in favor of spraying, when other measures would be more effective. She made the point that effective control would focus on eliminating breeding sites and cited the prevalence of these in the city. She requested that a task force be formed to consider

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Later in the meeting, in discussing Councilmember Kristen Weaver's motion for such a task force, councilmembers suggested a worksession, perhaps cooperatively with Green ACES. Acting City Manager Tim George confirmed that the city can provide "dunks" for standing water (e.g., ponds or rain barrels) to interrupt the breeding cycle. Spraying activities require participation by the county. (A mosquito dunk is a small donut-shaped floating device that releases a bacterium that prevents the development of larvae for up to 30 days and is approved for use in organic production.)

# **Call to Action**

Bill Orleans wanted council to make sure the ethics commission would review candidate financial reports, noting that it was the 153rd day since the request was made. He was also concerned that council on April 11 passed a motion to accept applications for persons wishing to be appointed to the reparations commissions and wanted to know why it wasn't happening. Councilmember Judith Davis resolved the question by explaining the ongoing process.

# **Proclamations**

The mayor read two proclamations: National Poetry Week and National Municipal Clerks week. He lauded Poetry in the Gardens - their next event will be held on Sunday, May 22 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Three Sisters Garden in Schrom Hills Park. The council chamber listened to a moving poem, delivered by published poet Balsac Montes of Greenbelt. Jordan also praised the work and professionalism of Greenbelt's team of City Clerk Bonita Anderson and Administrative Assistant Shania Ashley-Mullins. In other city news, George noted that work on the Buddy Attick Park parking lot had begun and should be substantially complete in time for July 4 celebrations.

The meeting's activity related to the Luminis Health application for amalgamating the existing multiple lots on which Doctors Community Medical Center was built is described in a story in the May 5 issue of the News Review.

JC Landscaping

# POLICE continued from page 6

vehicles home) potentially costing up to \$2,000. Electric vehicles are a better fit for parking enforcement or other duties requiring short drive times.

Council is focused on planning more electric vehicle infrastructure in the city, in preparation for its inevitable ubiquity, in the next three years.

# Other Needs

The department is looking to create a co-responder position that would help deal with mental health calls, turning to Greenbelt CARES for guidance. Such a position could better address these issues and do follow-up to prevent future calls for service, something patrol officers cannot do.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts was keen on this, also stressing the dearth of recreation facilities in Greenbelt West that could occupy the city's youth, with

Bowers saying that perpetrators are now skewing younger, some under 16.

# Grants, Revenues

The police department receives a number of state grants, of which the State Police Production Grant (\$445,000) and the State Highway Administration traffic safety and DUI Enforcement grant (\$35,000) are the two largest.

Acting City Manager Timothy George said that the city is aiming to hire a full-time grants supervisor who would seek out and suggest grants to all departments, as well as handle all of the procedures and documentation.

Red-light camera photo fines are challenging to collect from out-of-state drivers. State residents who fail to pay citations are prevented from renewing Realty 1, Inc. Our 34th Year in Greenbelt 301 982-0044 R1MD.com

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bath on main level. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Central A/C, refinished hardwood firs., shaded & fenced backyard. Large floorplan w/addition Half bath on main level. Masonry townhome w/ fenced backard & brick patio. Zoned

HVAC system, 11' x 17' master br. Townho y 2 Id Large family room addition in back, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.

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# COMICS continued from page 1

year on the first Saturday in May. Free comics are most often given away inside comic book stores, but The SPACE, along with cosponsor Hellspawned CosPlay, held this event in the center of Beltway Plaza.

There were markers, pencils and paper pre-printed with comic book panels set up on long tables; participants were to create their own comic books. Free comic books were lined up on other tables. Some comic enthusiasts arrived in costume.

Superhero Support Volunteers Causeplayers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit whose mission is to work with organizations and institutions in Maryland to raise visibility and morale, explained Brian Korzec, founder and commanding officer, and Jo Flores, Wonder Woman and treasurer. Korzec and Flores had just come from dropping a bundle of free comics at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital in Baltimore that morning.

As Captain America and Wonder Woman posed for photos, Cyclops pressed the flesh and posed in his trademark visor. Demetrius Holt, aka Hellspawned Cosplay, has built up a large following on Instagram and TikTok, and is raising money on Kickstarter to produce animated public service announcements for Black children.

Shaymar Higgs, founder and director of The SPACE and Greenbelt's 2021 Outstanding Citizen, expressed gratitude that so many people and organizations had come together to make this event happen.

Free Comic Book Day, first held in 2002, is operated by a panel representing all parts of the comic book industry, from retailers to publishers, suppliers and distributors, according to the group's website at freecomicbookday.com. Each year, publishers apply to provide comic books at cost to retailers, who in turn give them away for free. The annual event aspires to draw business to independent booksellers and to promote literacy, especially among reluctant readers.



Vincent Finley as Morbius and Lynne Marie as Wonder Woman



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# 2022 Farmers Market Opens To Cloudy Skies, Big Smiles

by Cathie Meetre

After weeks of planning and the inevitable but never-the-same-each-time last-minute hiccups, the 2022 Greenbelt Farmers Market sprang forth afresh on Mother's Day, May 8. After two years of Covid-19 anxieties and precautions, the market felt almost its earlier unfettered self. With eating and drinking permitted in the market, socializing and enjoying the experience complemented the always pleasant fresh air feel.

The slightly gloomy weather barely made a dent in attendance. Even before the opening bell pealed, there was a line at El Piquin (back with crêpes after a couple of years without). Word spread quickly to crêpe-starved marketgoers and the line stayed at 15 to 20 people throughout the market. Nelson Pleitez Fajardo was there at the crack of dawn with his new sign and his veggies all lined up, ready to go hours ahead as always. Family entertainment and balloons from Tea Fairy and Friends, one dressed as an adorable purple dinosaur, added color and fun to the market with balloon animals and giant bubbles. Several children received balloon swords and vigorous battles took place. Karen and Otis provided music with accordion and ukulele. But perhaps the stars of the show were the strawberries - red, perfect and glistening, they lit up the cloudy day like stored sunshine.

Market Master Frances Ippoliti was pumped for the occasion. Board members, always tense waiting for county special event permits and fire safety inspections, were cheered when first the county Fire Department declared itself satisfied and then overjoyed when the Department of Permits, Inspections and Enforcement found no fault. Navigating the ever-more rigorous compliance requirements is always a challenge.



Isaac of Fajardo's Produce presents perfect asparagus.



The Tea Fairy and Friends make smiles and laughter with their balloons at the opening market.

The market will continue to take place every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. until the weekend before Thanksgiving (except for Labor Day Weekend), and will hold a holiday market with a different set of vendors to coincide with the city's Art and Craft Fair in December.

Volunteers assist with market setup and takedown and at the information tent throughout. For more information about the market and how to help, visit the market's website at GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org. The market accepts donations of time and money.

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